

July 24, 2014

The Marion County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting, on Thursday, July 24, 2014 at 7:00 P.M., in the City Council Chambers City Hall, Marion, South Carolina. Members present were Buddy Collins, Chairman; Elista H. Smith, Vice Chairperson; John Q. Atkinson, Jr., Simon Jenkins, Thomas E. Shaw and Milton W. Troy, II. Also present were G. Timothy Harper, Administrator; Kent M. Williams, Deputy Administrator; Charles L. McLain III, County Attorney; and Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council. A representative from the Star & Enterprise was not present and duly notified.

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Simon Jenkins to lead the Invocation, after which he welcomed visitors and read the Freedom of Information Announcement.

Motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, to approve as written, the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 8, 2014.

Motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, to approve as written, the minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on July 11, 2014.

Councilman Jenkins stated for the record that he has a written proxy from Councilman Allen W. Floyd voting in favor of all matters.

The County Attorney stated that item A. B. C. & D. second and third reading for the ordinance listed on the agenda as follows were ready: A. Third Reading of Ordinance #2014-03 An Ordinance to Authorize the Lease of the Marion County Tax Parcel Number 121-00-00-033-000, more commonly referred to as the Old Marion County Landfill at Ariel Crossroads to Benjie Andrew for the sole purpose of cattle grazing under the terms of the lease attached hereto and made a part hereof, B. Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-07 An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance #2014-01; C. Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-08 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acceptance of Real Property in Britton's Neck from the Britton's Neck Volunteer Fire Department by way of deed containing an automatic reversion of the real property back to the grantor upon the termination of the term of the Marion County Capital Project Sales Tax; D. Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-09 An Ordinance calling for a Referendum to determine whether the South Carolina Department of Revenue may issue temporary permits to allow for the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises and off-premises consumption on Sundays in the County of Marion.

The County Attorney told Council that item A. on the agenda; Third Reading of Ordinance #2014-03 An Ordinance to Authorize the Lease of the Marion County Tax Parcel Number 121-00-00-033-000, more commonly referred to as the Old Marion County Landfill at Ariel Crossroads to Benjie Andrew for the sole purpose of cattle grazing under the terms of the lease attached hereto and made a part hereof was not ready.

The County Attorney told Council that item B. on the agenda; Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-07 An Ordinance to repeal Ordinance #2014-01 was ready: The County Attorney read the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Vice Chairperson Smith, and carried unanimously, to approve second reading of Ordinance #2014-07.

The County Attorney asked Council to amend the title of Ordinance 2014-08. Mr. McLain stated that a few terms in reference to the title needed to be added that deals with a lease regarding the property. Mr. McLain read the title of the ordinance with the added amendments. Motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Atkinson; Mr. Troy asked if the property reverts back to the Britton's Neck Volunteer Fire Department at the end of eight years. Mr. McLain replied that is correct. Mr. Shaw stated that the property was donated to the fire department. (Mr. Troy) voted against the motion. The motion carried to amend the title of Ordinance #2014-08.

The County Attorney told Council that item C. on the agenda; Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-08 An Ordinance to Authorize the Acceptance of Real Property in Britton's Neck from the Britton's Neck Volunteer Fire Department by way of deed containing an automatic reversion of the real property back to the grantor upon the termination of the term of the Marion County Capital Project Sales Tax and a simultaneous lease of the property back to the Britton's Neck Volunteer Fire

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Department to expire upon the termination of the term of the Marion County Capital Project Sales Tax was ready: Motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Atkinson. (Mr. Troy) voted against the motion. The motion carried to approve second reading of Ordinance 2014-08.

The County Attorney told Council that item D. on the agenda; Second Reading of Ordinance #2014-09 An Ordinance calling for a Referendum to determine whether the South Carolina Department of Revenue may issue temporary permits to allow for the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-premises and off-premises consumption on Sundays in the County of Marion was ready: The County Attorney read the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Troy, and carried unanimously, to approve second reading of Ordinance #2014-09.

Chairman Collins stated that Committee #1 will meet with the fire chief's on Tuesday July 29th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the fire fees.

There was no report given by Committee #2.

Mr. Charles Jones and Mrs. Brenda Jackson with Kenneth Cobb & Company appeared before Council to present the FY 2013 Audit Report. Mrs. Jackson thanked Council for the opportunity to service as auditor for Marion County. She provided a brief reminder as to how the financial statements are set up. She then highlighted key figures on the Statement of Net Position, Balance Sheet, and Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance. Council was informed that the auditors' report reflected an unqualified opinion on the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2014. Various findings on pages 52-56 of the audit report were reported to Council and questions from Council members were addressed. Finally, Council was reminded that they also had received a management letter in their package with some other matters and control deficiencies. Mrs. Jackson thanked Council again and stated that they would be happy to address any questions that may come up after Council has had additional time to review. Vice Chairperson Smith addressed a few issues that appear in the audit each year in reference to daily deposits, purchase orders, and bank reconciliations. The Administrator told Vice Chairperson Smith that most of the issues can be resolved. Vice Chairperson Smith requested to add personnel to executive session to discuss this said matter further. Chairman Collins thanked Mr. Jones and Mrs. Jackson for their presentation

The County Attorney had nothing to report.

The Administrator updated Council on the New Administration Building. Mr. Harper told Council that the plans have been approved by the City of Marion.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council told Council that the projects are moving forward.

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The Administrator updated Council on the communications tower. Mr. Harper told Council that soil testing has been completed and the soil samples have been submitted to the testing agency. He also stated that the County is waiting on the lease agreement from the City of Mullins.

The Administrator told Council that the County has been awarded an AFG Grant in the amount of \$660,415.00 to purchase portable radios.

The Administrator passed out copies of a press release in reference to Carolina Southern Railroad.

The Administrator passed out copies of a flyer in reference to a town hall meeting to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Hurricane Hazel on Thursday, August 14th at the Marion Opera House from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Smith asked Mr. Harper about the job descriptions. Mr. Williams replied to the question and stated that the job descriptions are finalized. She also mentioned the performance and evaluations. Mr. Harper stated that he is waiting on the job descriptions to be completed.

Motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for a personnel matter and an economic development matter on project Golden and Project Green Leaf.

Motion was made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Vice Chairperson Smith, and carried unanimously, to close executive session and reopen the regular scheduled meeting. Chairman Collins stated that no action was taken during executive session called for a personnel matter and an economic development matter on project Golden and Project Green Leaf.

The Administrator told Council that Mr. Ryan Slatterly with Alliance Consultants would be attending the August 28th meeting to discuss the County and State roads.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded, by Vice Chairperson Smith to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:18 P.M.

Buddy Collins, Chairman

Elista H. Smith Vice Chairperson

John Q. Atkinson, Jr.

(absent)

Allen W. Floyd

Simon Jenkins, Chaplain

Thomas E. Shaw

Milton W. Troy, II

G. Timothy Harper, Administrator

Charles L. McLain, III County Attorney

Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council